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The Daily Gamecock, WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2008

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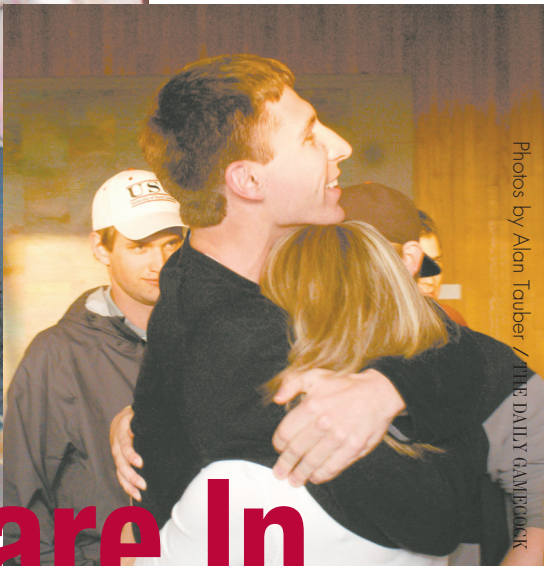
The Daily Gamecock

dailygamecock.com

THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2008

VOL. 101, NO. 101 • SINCE 1908



Photos by Alan Toubler / THE DAILY GAMECOCK

The Votes are In

Gaeckle, Ross, Antonio win Student Government elections by sizable margin

Haley Dreis
STAFF WRITER

After another series of executive SG elections, the results are in.

Andrew Gaeckle won president in a landslide victory, while Meredith Ross and Jonathan Antonio won the vice presidency and treasury with solid margins.

Gaeckle, a third-year international studies student, immediately began hugging his campaign staff and supporters as soon as he heard the results.

"We're all excited and we've really worked hard. I had some butterflies but I'm glad it's over so we can just get back into the groove," Gaeckle said. "We put all this hard work into [the campaign] and up until the results come out you really don't know what's going to happen."

Gaeckle said his next step is to get oriented with his position as president and will be shadowing Jay Laura in order to get mentored.

Meredith Ross, a second-year political science student, said she was very excited.

"We have our last senate meeting soon and then we're going to hit the ground running with next term," Ross said.

Jonathan Antonio, a second-year

accounting and finance student, said he can't wait to get into office and start working.

"I'm just relieved for the student body. I just feel passionately about me being in office," Antonio said. "I'm just ready and I wish I could get inaugurated tomorrow because there are a lot of things I want to get going."

Antonio said he has a few plans he wants to complete as SG president pro tempore and a member of the finance committee before he begins his treasurer position.

"I want to put legislation on the board before I complete my senate term. My first step is to sit down with [SG officials] who have been here for a long time and research what we have now in order to find better ways to go find money," Antonio said.

Allen Klump, a fourth-year political science student, said he is content with the election results.

"I think the individuals who were elected will be good ambassadors for the university. They will really be able to represent the best interest in the students to the administration," Klump said. "Gaeckle has been active at USC, is very genuine and really cares about student issues."

Valesha Woodley, a first-year accounting student, said she voted for the defeated candidates but thinks

the winning candidates will still do a good job in office.

She said she went to the debate with an open mind and felt candidates Alesha Brown, Deshawn Mitchell and Randy RaShad Gaines were stronger and clearer in expressing their platforms.

"They actually had a platform. They didn't try to diverge from their platform," Woodley said. "When [Gaeckle, Ross and Antonio] were answering questions at the debate they kind of stuttered and muttered but the other candidates like Alesha and Deshawn knew what they wanted and gave a positive outlook."

Klump said he believes that SG is important and hopes that its reputation will be more positive.

"We have an opportunity to show them that Student Government can be a more positive voice for USC," Klump said. "I looked at who would be the best representative for all the students."

Before the results were announced, Brown received a violation at a Constitutional Commission meeting earlier last night and a half-point infraction.

The complainant said she violated "no campaign material may be placed in an official polling location," when

ELECTION • 4

Organization pushes for AIDS education

HIV awareness necessary to turn around S.C.'s high infection ranking in US

Katie Jones
STAFF WRITER

A South Carolina DHEC survey in 2007 found that 4,128 Columbia citizens reported living with HIV/AIDS as of December 2006.

Palmetto AIDS Life Support Services is doing something to fight this problem. The organization launch "know (now)," an HIV testing marketing campaign, this Wednesday.

"This campaign is a really aggressive push to get information out there to people about how important it is to know your status," said Carmen Julious, the organization's executive director.

The organization, which was founded in 1985, offers HIV testing, practical and emotional support, peer counseling, educational programs and a food pantry, among a variety of other things, according to a news release.

The campaign has three major objectives: encouraging the community to get tested, to get treated and to get educated, Julious said.

It aims to further awareness in the community and generate accurate information about HIV/AIDS in Columbia, Julious said.

Jessica Green, a graduate

social work student, said she currently interns with the organization.

"It's so dangerous and people are scared to talk about," she said of the disease. "You need to know about it."

Green said she emphasizes that HIV testing is free with Palmetto AIDS Life Support Services.

"In general conversation with friends, ask 'Hey, have y'all been tested? Let's all go Monday and get tested.' Make it a group effort," she said.

Julious said HIV rates are highest among people 18-44 years old.

"As younger people, we often don't have a lot of awareness or concern about health issues. Younger people still feel relatively healthy," Julious said. "We hope the concern will

be that we want a healthy community. We want a healthy future for students."

South Carolina "usually rates in the top ten of states of rates of HIV infections" she said, with Richland County ranking as having the highest rate of HIV infections in the state.

"We think that could be turned around," Julious said. "The majority of folks who know their status and test positive change their behavior."

Some USC students said they feel that HIV/AIDS is a big problem in the Columbia community.

Kaylyn Wicker, a second-year early childhood education student, said

AIDS • 4

Polygamist sect leader accused of sex charges

Warren Jeffs faces 11 counts of sexual misconduct with minors

Amanda Lee Myers
The Associated Press

KINGMAN, Ariz. — Polygamist sect leader Warren Jeffs was handed over to Arizona authorities Tuesday to face sex charges stemming from the arranged marriages of two teenage girls to older relatives.

He already has been convicted in Utah in connection with one of those cases, involving a 14-year-old girl.

Deputies from the Mohave County Sheriff's Office took custody of Jeffs from Utah officials, sheriff's spokeswoman Trish Carter said. He was booked into the county jail, where he will be kept separate from other inmates, said sheriff's department Capt. Greg Smith.

"Now it's our turn," Arizona Attorney General Terry Goddard said. "I hope the message is very simple:

the law applies to everybody, whether they're the head of a large religious group, or somebody who's not. It's a crime to abuse children, and there are no exceptions."

Jeffs, leader of the Fundamentalist Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, will plead not guilty to the Arizona charges Wednesday in a Kingman court, said defense attorney Mike Piccarreta.

Jeffs, 52, is charged as an accomplice with four counts of incest and four counts of sexual contact with a minor in an indictment.

Smith said Jeffs was booked on six counts of sexual conduct with a minor, four counts of incest and one count of conspiracy to conduct sexual conduct with a minor but couldn't explain the discrepancy. Prosecutor Matt Smith wasn't in his office on Tuesday afternoon and couldn't immediately be reached for comment.

The Arizona charges stem from the arranged marriage of a man in his early 50s to a 17-year-old relative and another between a 19-year-

JEFFS • 5

AAAS work to bring diversity

Student organization uses skills to establish more connected USC

Sierra Kelly
THE DAILY GAMECOCK

Throughout recent years and over past decades, the Association of African American Students have worked to bring diversity to USC.

Ken Price, the 1968 president of the association, made a large impact through the group. Price recently passed away.

Other leaders of AAAS, both past and present, helped to carry on Price's legacy. Past leaders such as Aisha Taylor, Rico Reed and Tevra Johnson, and the current president, Amber Guyton,

work to bring more diversity to USC.

The organization celebrated its 40th anniversary Tuesday night with a gala honoring influential African-Americans in the USC community.

Rico Reed, a 1999 alumnus, was a print journalism student and a graphic designer for The Daily Gamecock when he attended USC.

Reed said he currently works with the national resource center for students in transition.

"I started out working with AAAS since my freshman year and that's how I got started," Reed said. "During my sophomore year I was glad to come in and work because I had graphic design experience. My senior year



Keri Goff / THE DAILY GAMECOCK

AAAS allows black students an opportunity to grow as a community while working to form a better environment.

I knew I wanted to run for president; I ran and won the election."

Reed said he served as the president for AAAS in 1998-1999.

Reed said the year he was president he pulled his staff together and really put them in the communities. He said the people that are involved now will leave behind a legacy to remember.

Aisha Taylor, an 2002 USC graduate, said she was the

youngest AAAS president when she was inducted at 18 years old.

Taylor said she currently owns Taylor Maid Professional Career Consulting and is a licensed minister.

Taylor said AAAS had one of the most successful years during her presidency because they continued a lot of the traditions.

AAAS • 4

See the first interviews with the new Student Government officers, only at www.DailyGamecock.com

NEWSBRIEFS

Local

South Carolina would officially recognize the emancipation of slaves under a bill that won approval in the House on Tuesday.

South Carolina, the first state to secede from the Union, would recognize "Juneteenth" to commemorate June 19, 1865, when Union soldiers arrived at Galveston, Texas, to announce the Civil War was over and that slaves were free.

South Carolina would be the 28th state to adopt a permanent recognition, said Dr. Ronald V. Myers, founder and chairman of the National Juneteenth Observance Foundation, a group advocating federal, state and local recognition. Only Texas has made it a holiday for state workers.

The Palmetto State has in the past approved temporary resolutions honoring "Juneteenth." This proposal would make it an annual recognition "to commemorate and reflect on the freedom of African Americans and their contributions to this State and nation," according to the bill.

"A lot of people were wondering why we have to come back every year," said state Rep. Harold Mitchell, a Spartanburg Democrat and the bill's chief sponsor. "I think it was more about the assumption that there they would be some controversy with it."

That's likely because the Confederate flag flies just outside the Statehouse and South Carolina has a Confederate Memorial Holiday in May.

The state also was often seen as the epicenter of the slave trade, and the first shots of the Civil War were fired here.

But there was no debate Tuesday on the bill. The proposal should get a routine third reading Wednesday before heading to the Senate.

National

FERRUM, Va. — Classes were canceled and a small private college went on lockdown Tuesday as police searched for a man who was seen with a gun on campus, officials said.

Ferrum College President Jennifer Braaten activated an alert system and ordered the school locked down after a member of the housekeeping staff reported seeing a young man walk into a residence hall with a handgun, Franklin County Sheriff Ewell Hunt said at a news conference.

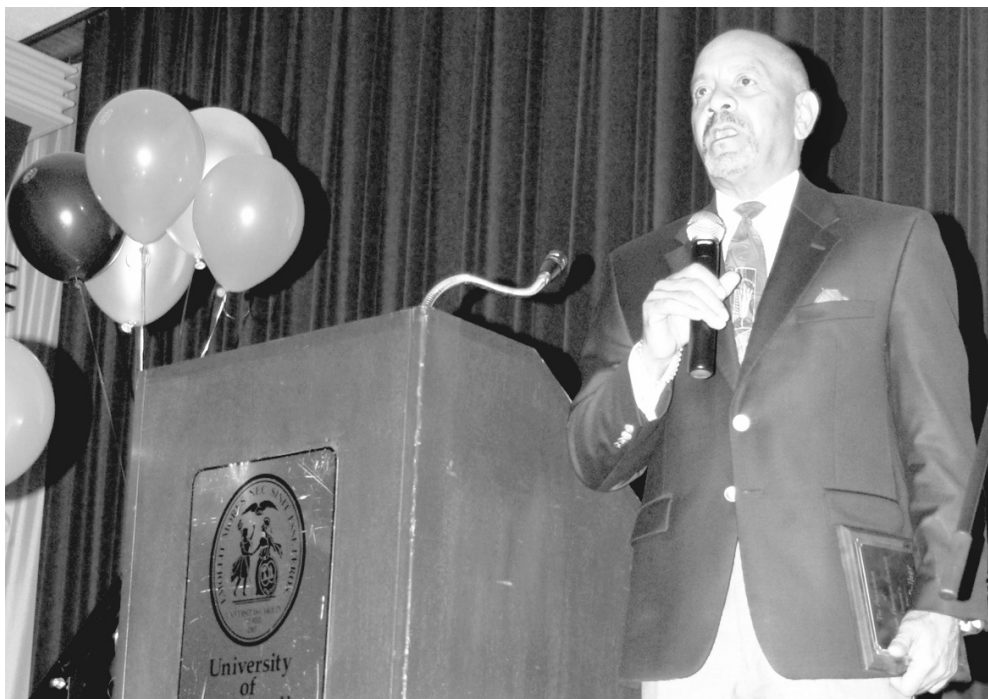
"Basically, he told the housekeeper not to say anything about it and he continued on," Hunt said.

There have been no reports of threats and no one on campus had been harmed, Hunt said at an afternoon news conference. Several men resembling the description of the man with the weapon were questioned but were not held, authorities said.

"No one has been hurt; no one is in a panic mode," Braaten said.

All campus buildings had been searched by Tuesday evening and police said they still had no idea who the man with the gun is or whether he is a student.

PIC OF THE DAY



Keri Goff / THE DAILY GAMECOCK

Harry Walker accepts his award commemorating his role as the first black Student Government president during AAAS's 40th anniversary celebration.

Students were taken to the gymnasium during the day for security reasons, but were escorted back to their rooms Tuesday evening. The school remained on lockdown.

More than 800 of the school's 1,000 students live on campus. Braaten said students would not be penalized if they left early for spring break, which begins Friday.

World

BANJA LUKA, Bosnia-Herzegovina — Police fired tear gas at Bosnian Serb rioters Tuesday to prevent them from storming the building of the U.S. consulate after protests against Kosovo's independence.

A group split away from

the almost 10,000 peaceful protesters in Banja Luka and headed toward the consulate, breaking shop windows and throwing stones at police who blocked the streets leading to the building with armored vehicles.

A rain of stones poured down on police before officers fired tear gas to disperse the crowd. Several officers were seen limping. Police were also seen detaining several demonstrators as they withdrew to a nearby park.

Hundreds of hooligans attacked the U.S. embassy in downtown Belgrade Thursday, setting part of it on fire and smashing windows. One person died and hundreds were injured and arrested.

Some bystanders returning from the peaceful part of Tuesday's protest yelled "shame on you!" at the rioters and one man, apparently a former Bosnian Serb soldier, shouted, "This is not what I fought for!"

— Compiled by The Associated Press

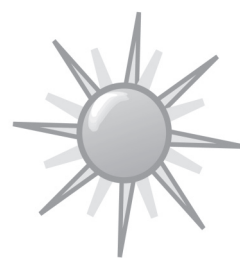
[WEATHER]

TODAY



49 27

Thursday



56 35

CAMPUS HIGHLIGHTS

Wednesday, Feb. 27

7 p.m.
College Democrats meeting
Russell House room 203

8 p.m.
SALA meeting
RH 305

Thursday, Feb. 28

4:30 p.m.
Michael Goodchild, a professor of geography at the University of California — Santa Barbara, will give the "Julian Minghi Distinguished Lecture." Calcott, Room 011

5 p.m.
Emory University scholar Rosemarie

Garland-Thomson gives a speech for USC's Women's Studies Conference.
Lumpkin Auditorium

7 p.m.
Empower meetings
RH 304

9 p.m.
Carolina Surf Club meeting
Humanities room 201

Friday, Feb. 29

2:00 p.m.
Robert McNair
"Bob McNair a la carte"
Russell House Theater

7 p.m.
The Vagina Monologues
Gambrell 153

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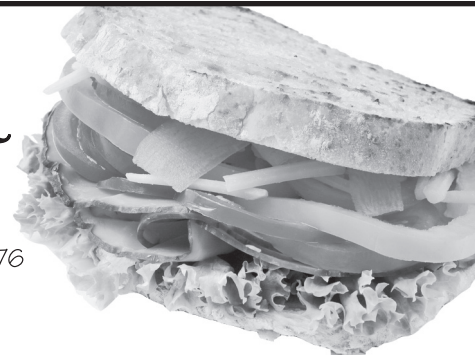
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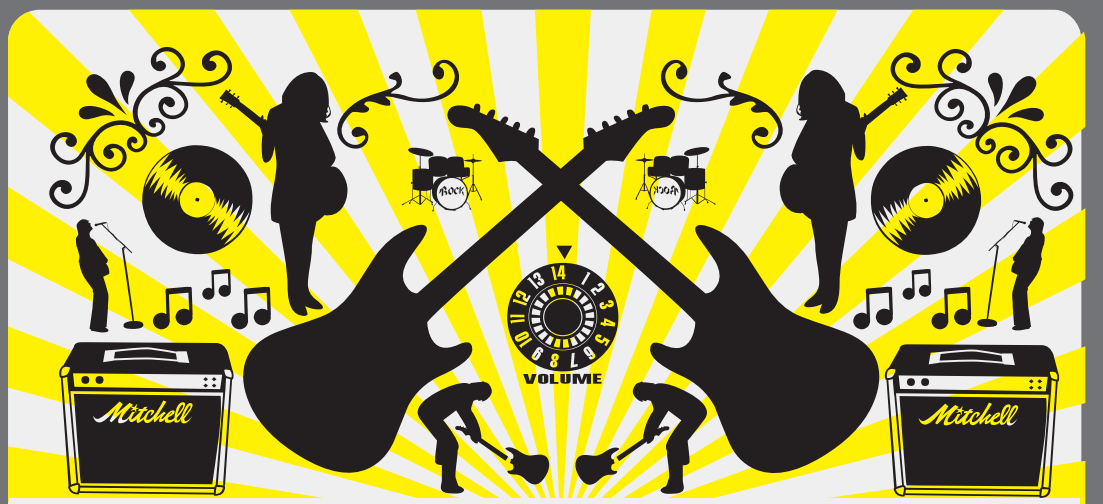
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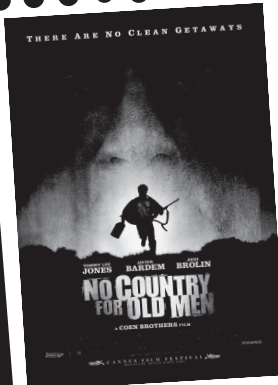


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M0125784

ELECTION • Continued from 1

the complainant was voting in Gambrell Hall and saw a lab staff member wearing an "Alesha Brown for President" T-shirt.

Randy Gaines also had a violation brought against him but it was dismissed due to lack of evident.ce.

Comments on this story? E-mail sagcknew@mailbox.sc.edu

The Final Countdown

Here are the percentages for SG runoffs.

President:

Andrew Gaeckle: 71.34%
Alesha Brown: 28.66%

Vice President:

Meredith Ross: 58.54%
DeShawn Mitchell: 41.46%

Treasurer:

Jonathan Antonio: 58.99%
Randy Rashad Gaines: 41.01%

AIDS • Continued from 1

she thinks a lot can still be done to raise awareness on campus.

"More speakers should come, maybe some with AIDS," she said. "People think it won't happen to them. It doesn't faze them. It's a big problem."

Wicker is from Newberry, where she said AIDS, as well as teen pregnancy, is a big problem.

"It will just increase without knowledge," she said.

Adam Kollar, a third-year sports and entertainment management student, said he agrees prevention is a major component in the fight against AIDS, but thinks it common knowledge.

"To prevent it, there isn't much you can do other than what is being done," Kollar said. "The health center does a good job with the resources they have."

Before coming to USC, Kollar said he attended a two-year school where he said he took a mandatory health class which taught HIV/AIDS awareness, prevention and the like.

"You had to pass the class to graduate," he said.

Seventy-five percent of those diagnosed with HIV/AIDS in Region 3, which is made up Richland, Lexington, Lancaster, Newberry, York, Fairfield and Chester counties, are black. Seventy-five percent of new HIV/AIDS cases are men, according to a news release.

Palmetto AIDS Life Support Services works with several AIDS organizations in South Carolina, including SC HIV/AIDS Council.

"People try to look for something to make sense of the rates of HIV infection," Julious said. "The message we need for everybody to hear is that anyone can be at risk for HIV. It is what you do, not who you are that puts you at risk."

AAAS • Continued from 1

Keri Goff / THE DAILY GAMECOCK

**Current AAAS President
Amber Guyton.**

"During that year was also the time we were trying to get the Confederate flag removed from the top of the State House," Taylor said. "We also staged a boycott against The Gamecock because they were printing ads for no reason. We did a lot of activism during our Black Cultural Week."

Taylor said to some degree they faced a lot of resistance and they did not have an advisor when she was president.

"That was one of the challenges we faced during that time. We experienced a great amount of growth," Taylor said. "One of the other things we were trying to do was to bridge the gap between the Greek organizations."

Taylor said under her leadership, AAAS instituted a Greek liaison and formed a chairperson for it.

Tevra Johnson, an 2001 alumni and senior analyst at a law firm in Charlotte said she was secretary in her junior year and community service chairperson her senior year. She said she was also the president's basic leader.

Johnson said AAAS was the largest student organization with the largest funding at that time.

"We were really unified and every Tuesday we

had our meetings and we actually rallied behind causes, had events and community service," she said. "She said we were real big on community service. It was a lot of fellowship, but also a lot of business being taken care of also."

Johnson said she recently volunteered at the Barack Obama campaign session.

Amber Guyton, AAAS's current president and a fourth year advertising student, said AAAS is a unified group with important goals.

"I believe that the Association of African American Students is a living, breathing organization," Guyton said. "AAAS is filled with students that strive towards the same goal: solving issues concerning African Americans, uniting the black student body and giving students a voice that was rarely heard in the past."

Guyton said past AAAS goals influence the future of the organization.

"AAAS members fought for rights and privileges in the 1960s and 1970s that many of us take advantage of today," she said.

Guyton said this organization has meant a great deal to her; she will take much away from it after graduation because it helped to prepare her for her future career.

"This organization has given me the leadership skills and motivation that qualified me to serve this university as a resident advisor, orientation leader and member of my sorority," Guyton said. "It is an organization that opens many doors and gives so much to you when you give your time and energy to it."

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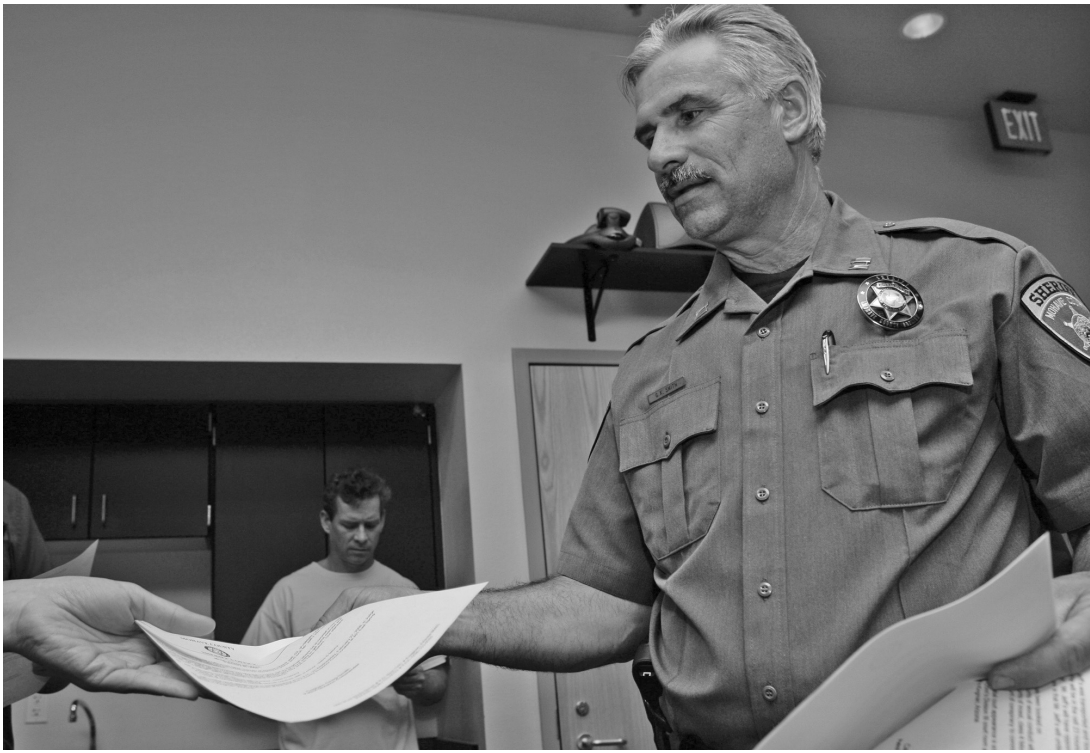
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Ross D. Franklin / The Associated Press

Capt. Greg Smith hands out a press release prior to holding a news conference where a polygamist sect leader Warren Jeffs was handed over to Arizona authorities.

JEFFS • Continued from 1

old man and his 14-year-old cousin.

Jeffs was convicted last year in Utah of rape as an accomplice in the latter case, but Arizona prosecutors say that doesn't preclude them from bringing charges here.

Members of the church live in the isolated twin towns of Hildale, Utah, and Colorado City, Ariz.

"Our interest has always been in making sure that the rule of law applies in Colorado City and northern Arizona," Goddard said. "And certainly the most spectacular offender, the person doing the most to subvert the rule of law in that area, is Warren Jeffs."

Piccarreta plans to ask the judge for a change of venue, saying the northwestern Arizona city of Kingman is too close to St. George, Utah, the site of Jeffs' first trial, for him to get a fair trial here. The cities, separated by the Grand Canyon, are a more than 200-mile drive apart.

"If people want to give Mr. Jeffs a fair trial, we have to hold it in an area as far away as practical from the other case in Utah," he said. "And that case to me is an

example of what occurs when you don't take the case away from people that have lots of knowledge and local publicity that has tainted the jury panel."

Mohave County Attorney Matt Smith said the trial, which will be months from now, should be held in Mohave County because that's where the alleged crimes occurred.

It has been 2½ years since Mohave County prosecutors filed charges against Jeffs and he went into hiding. He was on the FBI's Most Wanted list when he was arrested in August 2006 in Nevada.

Jeffs was named president, or prophet, of the FLDS church in 2002.

The mainstream Mormon church, The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, renounced polygamy more than a century ago, excommunicates members who engage in the practice and disavows any connection with the FLDS church.

Jeffs was sentenced in Utah to serve two consecutive terms of five years to life in prison. Smith has said that if Jeffs is convicted in Arizona he would have to finish his Utah sentence before doing time here.



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MARCH 3rd

• "Risque Business: An Examination of the Dangerous Drinking Culture at USC" in Russell House Theatre. 7:30 p.m.

MARCH 4th

• GAMMA Meeting in Russell House 315. 7:00 p.m.
• Dr. Ruth in Russell House Ballroom. 8:00 p.m.

MARCH 5th

• Safe Spring Break Week Carnival on Greene Street
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IN OUR OPINION

Prison not responsible for funding sex change

Cable television, recess and a decent meal — what more could a convicted felon want from their prison? Michelle Kosilek, formerly known as Robert Kosilek, is trying to sue her Correction Facility for not granting her a sex-change operation. Apparently when you are arrested and sentenced for murder, the state owes you thousands of dollars in treatments to satisfy your emotional and sexual preferences.

It’s ridiculous that Kosilek is taking advantage of the Equal Protection Amendment in order to become a woman for free. As a prisoner, Kosilek gave up her rights — and even those rights never included the state paying thousands of dollars for an elective operation.

Kosilek came to the prison a husband, convicted of killing his wife and wants to leave as woman, via the state’s checkbook.

When Kosilek sued the facility for treatments including psychotherapy, hair removal and hormone treatments, the courts relented and allowed the treatments, just not the surgery. Now Kosilek claims the treatments aren’t working and that she is entitled to stronger treatments.

As if asking for the treatments wasn’t enough, these latest claims to “equal protection” send her over the edge. Asking the state to fund an unnecessary surgery takes greed to a whole new level.

Right now the courts are still making a decision as to whether or not Kosilek deserves upped treatments; hopefully this time they remember the real meaning of equal protection for convicted felons.

CORRECTIONS

If you see an error in today’s paper, we want to know about it. E-mail us at sagckvew@mailbox.sc.edu.

IT’S YOUR RIGHT

Voice your opinion on message boards at www.dailygamecock.com or send letters to the editor at sagckvew@mailbox.sc.edu

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POINT COUNTERPOINT

Should students be allowed to carry guns on campus?

Firearms provide safety, sense of security against those who disregard law

A new gun control argument is out, and this time, it’s for more freedom. The goal is to allow licensed students to carry their firearms on campus.

Usually when someone hears the word “gun,” the word “violence” immediately comes to mind, throw in the words “student” and “campus” and automatically, people imagine a tragedy. All these are in conjunction with recent events, so it’s understandable that people might have some fears about allowing students the right to carry their guns on campus. But all these fears can be calmed if we consider a few facts.

The first thing to consider is that in school shootings the student who committed the crime most often planned the murder — it was premeditated. As I’ve said before, I’m terrified of guns, but a person with a gun isn’t what scares me. It’s a person who wants to hurt me, who happens to have a gun — that’s scary. Someone who has decided beforehand that they want someone else dead is not concerned with any regulations placed by a state or school, and this has been proven time and time again at different school tragedies.

The fact is a law is not going to stop a lawbreaker.

The murderer also knows that the victim will be helpless. Because guns are banned on campus it is understood that said murderer will be the only



MARITZA CARROWAY
First-year broadcast journalism student

student with a gun, giving them the power.

Allowing students to carry on campus would provide them with a greater sense of security as well as a plausible means of defense against those who would like to harm them.

Don’t think so? Take for example a shooting at the Appalachian School of Law in Grundy, Va. A former student walked on to campus and shot two faculty members to death. Two students heard the gun shots and both ran to their cars and retrieved their own firearms; together, with a third student, they subdued the killer.

The students had to run to their cars to get their weapons, imagine how much damage the killer could have done in that amount of time. If the students had been able to carry their weapons with them, things could have ended even sooner than they did.

Guns are useful for your general safety as well. Pepper spray is a nice idea, but nothing will make criminal cower more than another person with a gun.

Not just anybody will have these guns. Students legally carrying guns will be the age of 21 or over, will have gone through a SLED background check and have attended a class on how to properly operate a firearm before they are legally allowed to carry.

Passage of bill would only endanger lives of people, heighten risk of violence

You want to keep yourself safe on campus? Let the professionals keep us safe.

Out of the 50 states, 40 allow citizens to carry concealed weapons and 36 of them ban weapons on government property. Only Utah has explicitly allowed concealed weapons on campuses and government property. In South Carolina, the campus gun bill (H. 3964) failed in the General Assembly.

This is the trend among recent states proposing similar bills and amendments.

Is there a reason for this failing trend of allowing guns on campus?

Yes, for the same reason why banks, churches and other such institutions do not allow concealed weapons.

When do permitted gun carriers feel that their life is in jeopardy, and at what time do they use lethal force in self-defense?

The fear of guns allowed on campus and other institutions confirms that the victim or an innocent bystander is more likely to be hurt than to stop the threat or criminal.

I for one, do not want to be caught in the line of fire and be at more risk than the original threat at hand.

As the Constitution expressly states in the Second Amendment, “A well regulated Militia being necessary to the security of a free State, the right of the people to keep and bear Arms shall not be infringed.”

DEREK WILLIAMS
Fourth-year international studies student

The intent of the message through gun control lenses allows those in public defense services and military to bear arms to defend those of us who are not apart of these services.

Does the intent of this statement express the right for individuals to bear arms in public areas outside of their home and property?

The right to defend oneself is regarded as top priority but not within lethal force of a gun, not at the cost of us civilians being victims of crossfire.

The sheer fact of the matter is that guns are designed, produced and sold as objects intended to kill, with no other uses.

Consequently, beyond the need to hunt, states are allowing concealed weapon permits to solve the bigger problem at hand, relaxed gun laws that allow such individuals to perform these random acts of violence on campuses.

Gun laws in the U.S. should reflect those of our European cousins. The UK for example does not consider self-defense as a reason to own a gun. The law insists that an individual who wishes to own a gun must show evidence that the gun is necessary for a legitimate sporting or working-related reasons.

The gun violence here in the states can only call for tighter restrictions on guns, not more relaxed guns to fight guns with guns..

The opinion that we should “fight fire with fire” with innocent bystanders around seems absurd.

THE COCKBLOCK

Reader discussion from dailygamecock.com

In response to ‘Cigarettes erase girls’ efforts to look good’ by Cory Burkarth

I completely agree - but I think it also goes both ways. Guys that light up are no longer attractive. I don’t care if you lift weights, won Discovery Day, or have had your own concert. As soon as you light up, you are unattractive and smelly. I could have the best conversations with you and agree about politics and religion, but a friendship won’t even get a chance to blossom if you smoke.

This is one of the best articles I’ve read in a long time. It’s completely true. Everytime I walk by a girl (or guy for that matter) who’s smoking, I just want

to say, “you know, smoking doesn’t make you look pretty or cute or anything, it’s really just a big turn-off.”

What else is on your list of things to not look for in a spouse? If its all unhealthy things, then drinking, eating fast food, not exercising, not wearing glasses, not getting the yearly check up, not covering her mouth when she sneezes, and many other every day habits should be on your list. Just because someone smokes does not mean that they should be shunned. I think you are ridiculous forin not getting to know girls just because they smoke. That says nothing about their character or beliefs. Its a habit same as biting nails.

Also, your comment to that girl about quitting was completely inappropriate. Its not your job to go around saying things like that to random strangers. Where you get the nerve is beyond me and any other smokers imagination. Its OUR life, not yours.

why dont you ask first ask if she is even trying to impress you first? maybe she just likes talking to guys about sports, and she really doesn’t care about anything else. maybe she has a reason for smoking, stress, working in a restaraunt or bar atmospHERE where over 75% of employees smoke. i bet to her you judging her based upon that fact is a pretty big turnoff as well.

In response to ‘Social Security begins negative cycle’ by Paul Bowers

A society is judged by how it treats its infants and its elderly. I dare say you have been treated very well in your still continuing youth.

Are you so self centered and selfish to deny the elderly the return on the investments they have made over a lifetime? Social Security is an earned benefit not a give away program.

What about individuals that are on welfare..... do they still recieve social security once they reach the eligible age..... sounds pretty earned to me.

Asheville singer hits Columbia

Nikki Talley teams up with other local musicians for eclectic mini-tour

Colin Jones
ASSISTANT MIX EDITOR

For singer/songwriter Nikki Talley, Asheville, N.C., represents something more than just a city nestled in the Blue Ridge Mountains.

Talley, 30, who recently embarked on a mini-tour with local musicians and friends Laura Blackley and Ashley Chambliss, sees the town as being an area of assorted creativity. The tour arrives in Columbia Wednesday night at the 5 Points Pub.

"It's kind of cool to see a town so diverse," Talley said. "Asheville is a safe haven to be weird and express yourself."

Talley has been deeply entrenched in music since her youth due to her mother's folk singing influence.

According to the singer's Web site, Talley began her career at 19 playing on the streets and in the bars of Key West, Fla., before traveling up to North Carolina.

"Asheville is a self-supported scene," Talley said. "In the world and Asheville as well, it takes all kinds."

Observing the scene over the past couple of years, the singer remarks that the musicians of Asheville are heavily influenced by the bluegrass roots that are found in the city and derived from mountain culture.

After moving to Asheville, Talley received a grant from the arts council to record her debut album "Brother" and formed a band that eventually opened for Edwin McCain.

The songwriter comments that she enjoys maintaining a "schizophrenic" nature of spontaneity in her sets.

"I like to keep the set mixed up for the audience and myself," Talley said. "I love my audience, but I have to keep things interesting for myself as well."

This unusual nature of performing and her distinct voice are what Talley sees as her defining features as a musician.

While Talley supports herself solely on music through numerous gigs and corporate events that she plays, she notes that the business is not particularly easy in this technological age.

"Because of the Internet, you essentially don't have to perform anymore," Talley said. "You can be a one-man band, sell a lot of records and never leave your house."

Talley notes how an increase in connectivity through the Internet and a rise in female singer/songwriters over the past couple of years pose challenges to songwriters in the present day.

The hardest thing personally, Talley observes, is putting a specific finger on her own sound.

"It's as if I took all my favorite artists and put them into a blender," Talley said.



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According to the songwriter, she has been compared to artists ranging from Sarah McLachlan to Jimi Hendrix. Talley reveals that she was quite flattered and taken aback by the Hendrix comparison.

After relocating to Toronto in 2004 and independently recording her second album, "Telling Lies," Talley returned to her stomping grounds. With her semi-homecoming, Talley entered and won the American Idol-esque "Carolina Star" competition of 300 musicians and was awarded \$10,000.

Following the competition, Talley and other musicians began preliminary talks of starting a tour of the southeast.

"Laura and I had talked about getting a tour together," Talley said. "And this tour is a test run for something we would possibly like to do this summer."

Local musician Chambliss has joined Blackley and Talley on the songwriters' tour to provide further diversity in the lineup.

Talley remarks that Blackley, with her raw, blues-oriented sound, has been the hardest-working girl on Asheville's music scene. While

Blackley holds to a temperament of blues in her music, Chambliss offers up a sultry and piano-based sound on tour that Talley compares to musician Ricky Lee Jones.

The songwriter, who plans to release her third album later this spring, finally boiled down the true definition of her musical nature.

"I'm just a girl with a guitar and a big mouth," Talley said.

Nikki Talley will be performing at 5 Points Pub.

Comments on this story? E-mail sagcketc@mailbox.sc.edu

'Supernatural' commands CW cult following

CW network believes in show despite poor ratings compared to rest of Tuesday lineup

Mark Price
MCT Campus

If there ever was a show begging to be canceled, it's one sharing the same time slot as hits like "Lost" and "CSI: Crime Scene Investigation."

So, producer-writer Eric Kripke won't sugarcoat the fact that his series "Supernatural" faces a firing

squad at 9 p.m. each Thursday on the CW network.

He'd rather talk about the fact that the show — which is in its third season and appears headed for a fourth — has become the kind of sleeper cult hit that usually doesn't get noticed until it's canceled.

"The first time I realized we were on the level with 'Star Trek' Trekkies was when I heard of a fan convention," says Kripke in a recent phone interview. "Fans were gathering in different towns, having meetings and seminars to discuss the inner psychology of the characters. It blew my mind that the show had gotten to that level."

It's a status "Supernatural" couldn't help but earn with a plot that re-imagines "The Exorcist," with two gun-loving brothers from Kansas who drive from one possession to the next in a revved-up 1967 Impala.

The characters, Dean and Sam Winchester, have won such a following that the show also has its own fan magazine, a series of comic books and paperback novels, a book of mythology, calendars, a role-playing game and official season guides to explain production details for the DVD boxed sets.

There are dozens of Web sites devoted to the show, created by the

fans themselves.

"I used to spend hours a week reading them," Kripke admits. "There were times I let it get me down, if even three people hated a show. Now, I hopscotch around and look for a consensus. That lets me know if we did well or we stunk."

For now, he says the greatest challenge facing the show is the same one faced by countless other cult hits: poor ratings. "Supernatural" averages about 3 million viewers, which is one-fifth the number watching hits like "Lost."

"I feel 'Supernatural' is a show on the precipice. With a few more pushes, it could cross over from cult hit to real hit," he says. "The problem is, so few people know about it. We're on a smaller network that doesn't have a lot of money for promotion."

On the upside, he says, the CW is so young that his 3 million viewers count as one of the network's hits. That has him optimistic a fourth season is likely. That, and the fact that "Supernatural" has become a success in the most unexpected of places.

"From what I'm told, we have as many, if not more, viewers in Russia," says Kripke, "and we are huge in Asian countries. Horror translates well in cultures that have rich spiritual folklore."

**Watch
SUPERNATURAL
Thursday nights
on the CW at 9**



MCT Campus

"Supernatural," featuring two paranormal-fighting brothers, is up for the chopping block every night.



'Tempest'
*premeieres at
Drayton*

USC students bring life to one of Shakespeare's best comedies, show talent

Ellen Meder
STAFF WRITER

The world over, Shakespeare is considered the gold standard of theatre. Likewise, the Department of Theatre and Dance's Master of Fine Arts program is the highest-quality thespian work at the University of South Carolina. "The Tempest" will be running in alternating repetition with "Romeo and Juliet" starting today in Drayton Hall (adjacent to the Wardlaw College of Education).

Captained by masters directing student Neal Easterling, "The Tempest" delivers a solid, clean interpretation of what is considered one of Shakespeare's best plays. With an atypical plot that is set on a nearly deserted island and a storyline that is indisputably original, "The Tempest" is a great canvas to showcase some of South Carolina's best acting and production talent.

The action of the play begins when a ship carrying a royal party wrecks on a seemingly deserted island after a vicious storm. This is no coincidence, though, as the island has been the 12-year home to exiled sorcerer Prospero and his daughter Miranda. With the help of his indentured servant of a spirit, Prospero conjures the gale winds to bring his sworn enemies to his domain to pay for their misdeeds.

In true Shakespearean fashion, mayhem and magic ensue to address issues of betrayal and forgiveness as well as the timeless contrast between natural and fabricated society by placing the events in a tropical locale. This distinct difference is one of the big selling points of the play for people who typically find the social set-ups in Shakespearean plays contrived and not relatable to current society.

This particular production of the comedy truly breathes new life into the play. With a cast that is about half undergraduate students and half grad students, the entire cast has a polished professional depth to their delivery. From the start, Ariel, Prospero's siren-like nymph of a servant, played by Abby Page, sets the precedent with a commanding and expressive delivery.

Soon after, Brian Rooney takes up the reigns, filling the room to capacity with dominant presence and life as Prospero, similar to his work in the fall's "Oh! What A Lovely War." Humor and depth arise from the character of Caliban, the tribal, voodoo-esque, sub-human son of a witch who serves as Prospero's slave and key to the island. Michael Downey truly taps into his primal instincts to sell the play. Of course, no Shakespeare play would be complete without a dog, provided herein by the

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TEMPEST • Continued from 7

hilarious physical comedy and drunken antics of Trinculo and Stefano (Steven Kopp and Trey Hobbs).

At just about the same time that Prospero is really revealed as a mastermind, it becomes clear that Neal Easter must also be a true visionary to pull off this production.

The production is quality, but not overdone. The audience is actually situated in a semi-circle of risers on the actual stage, creating a truly intimate setting and up-close and personal acting. The set is simple, but it gives the actors height and levels to work with in a smaller area. With a sparse set, the lighting is integral in creating the island atmosphere, as are the constant sound effects, be they waves, lightning or

eerie siren whispers. The USC cast and crew of “The Tempest” serve as an unmistakable reminder that the words of the Bard were artfully written to be rolled off the tongue on a stage, not read in a stuffy high school English class. For a play with plenty of college appeal (love and lust, drunkenness, physical comedy) student tickets are \$8 with a USC ID, \$10 for USC Faculty/Staff and Military and \$12 for the general public at the door.

Comments on this story? E-mail sagcketc@mailbox.sc.edu

if you go

Ticket Prices:

\$8 at the door with a student ID

\$10 for USC faculty/staff and Military

\$12 for the general public

“The Tempest”

Drayton Hall

Feb. 27 at 8 p.m.

Feb. 29 at 8 p.m.

March 1 at 2 p.m.

March 2 at 8 p.m.

“Romeo & Juliet”

Drayton Hall

Feb. 28 at 8 p.m.

March 1 at 8 p.m.

March 2 at 2 p.m.

March 3 at p.m.

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We wanted to share our good news!

Congratulations to Creative Services, Garnet & Black magazine and The Daily Gamecock newspaper for winning ten awards in the student category of the American Advertising Federation's 2008 ADDY awards.

The Daily Gamecock garnet&black

Gold Student ADDY

Kailey Waring

Jessica Nielsen

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Julia Anderson

Meredith Ray

Courtney Chandler

Megan Sinclair (2 awards)

Jessica Nielsen

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the scene atUSC



OBRASKAI, DECADENCE, HOUR ZERO
TODAY
8 p.m., \$7
Headliners, 700 Gervais St.

TODAY

5 Points Pub, 2020 Devine St.

RING OF FIRE
7:30 p.m., \$36 - \$46
Koger Center, 1051 Greene St.

THE WALKER
3 p.m., \$5
6 p.m and 8:15 p.m., \$5.50
Nickelodeon Theatre, 937 State St.

WACKY WEDNESDAY: CUSTOM COOKIE CREATIONS, GUITAR HERO 3
Free
Russell House

NATHAN ANGELO, ROB BLACKLEDGE
6 p.m., \$1 - \$3

ASHEVILLE SONGWRITER SHOWCASE
10 p.m., \$1 - \$3
5 Points Pub, 2020 Devine St.

LORENE DRIVE, FAREWELL, COURIER
7 p.m., \$7
New Brookland Tavern, 122 State St.

CHORAL EVENSONG
5:30 p.m., Free
Trinity Episcopal Cathedral, 1100 Sumter St.

MR. B'S GOODTIME KARAOKE EXPLOSION
9 p.m., Free
Art Bar, 1211 Park St.

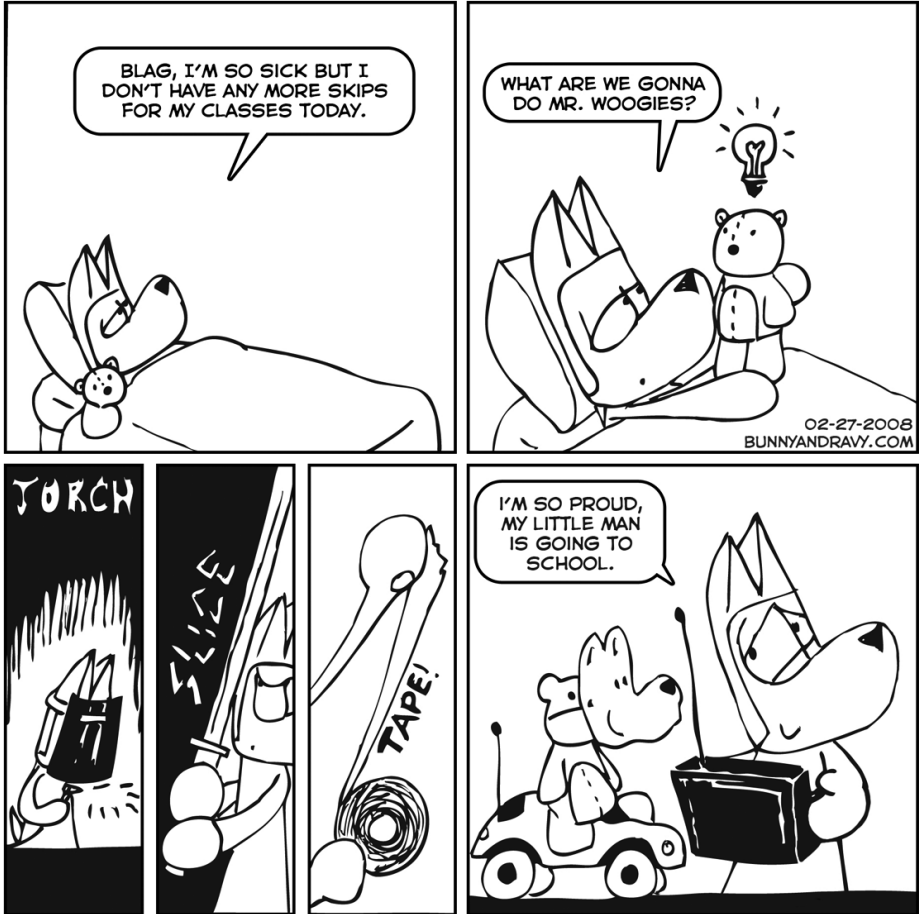
HOROSCOPES

Aries If you can't have or do everything you want at this moment in time, don't think of it as dreams being shattered. Learn to defer gratification; it's a very useful skill. **Taurus** Advise your partner to watch out for tricks. All is not as it appears to be. To win this competition, you will have to be resourceful. Creativity is required. **Gemini** It seems like you're getting nowhere, but that's probably not the case. Check your bearings and persevere. Do the job because you said you would. **Cancer** If you want to make a good impression, use food instead of toys. You'll save a lot of money and have much greater success. And you'll look very good. **Leo** You're still having

to deal with a couple of stubborn types. Do your job and remind them of the overall objective, if you must. Otherwise, lay low. **Virgo** The more you learn, the more things you'll find that you've been doing the hard way. Carefully assess your situation and put in the corrections. **Libra** A review of your budget could lead to an ugly clash with reality. Just because you can't afford the toy you want now, doesn't mean you never will. Save up. **Scorpio** It's easier for you to see through a silly facade now. Your best choice for romance is someone who never tries to pull any such tricks. **Sagittarius** This day is good for finishing up,

tidying up and throwing things out. You'll be absolutely amazed at how much space you can create. And it'll be fun. **Capricorn** It's good to support causes that further your agenda. Just make sure the people to whom you're sending money aren't spending it on themselves, for luxuries. **Aquarius** It may seem there's a huge barrier between you and what you want. This could be a mirage, without real substance. Stay busy with practical matters. **Pisces** The more you learn, the more old assumptions are challenged. This is OK. You can let them go. Try out a new perspective.

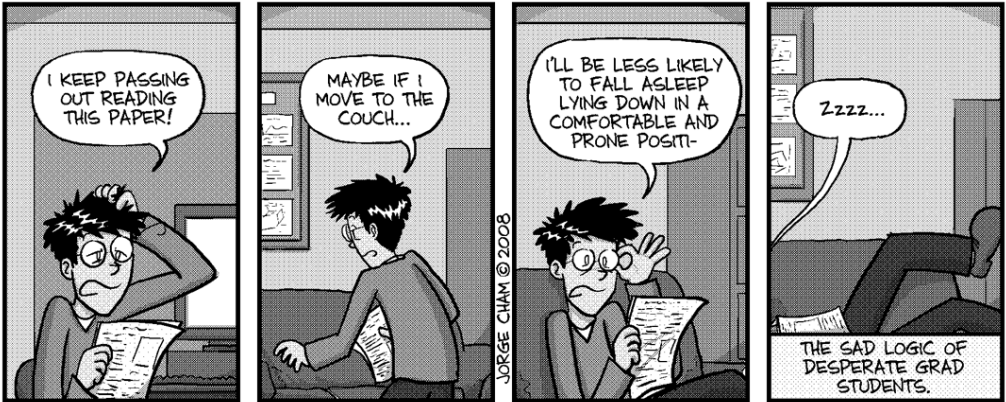
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Crossword

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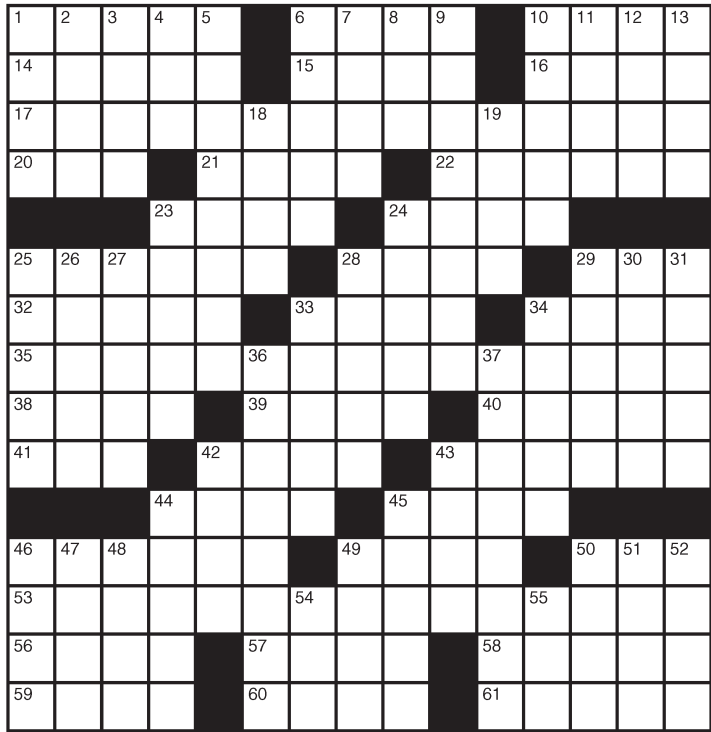
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- 21 Heaps
- 22 Petty dictator
- 23 Mikita of hockey
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- 53 Bench mates?
- 56 Arduous journey
- 57 Pointless Olympic event?
- 58 __ macabre
- 59 Debate faction
- 60 Ewes' mates
- 61 Lessen



Solutions from 2/26/08

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E	W	O	K	S		I	S	A		S	A	L
R	E	R	E	A	D		T	W	O		T	M
S	E	A	P	O	R	T		A	R	M		A
						P	E	N	N	Y	E	A
S	A	N	T	A	A	N	A		G	I	A	
Q	U	O	R	U	M		F	R	A	N	K	L
F	E	M	A	L	E		T	E	N		E	A
T	R	E	M	O	R		A	M	O		S	Y

- 31 Pops in Paris
- 33 In flames
- 34 Mall unit
- 36 Poisonous shrub
- 37 Amazon snake
- 42 Wide smile
- 43 Colombian city
- 44 Chap in Soho
- 45 Social customs
- 46 Fast jets, briefly
- 47 Actress Garr
- 48 Got a top grade on
- 49 Plant part
- 50 Catcher Tony
- 51 Once, once
- 52 Two words of understanding
- 54 Hot tub
- 55 Chew the fat

DOWN

- 1 Manilow's nightclub

Sudoku

By The Mephram Group

2/27/08

1	2		7			6		5
3		9	8					
	4				1			
6	1	8				3	7	2
			2				5	
						9	1	3
4		3			8		6	9

Level **1** 2 3 4

How to Play

Complete the grid so each row, column AND 3-by-3 box (in bold borders) contains every digit 1 to 9.

Solution for 2/26/08

6	7	9	1	4	5	2	8	3
2	3	4	7	9	8	5	1	6
5	1	8	2	3	6	7	9	4
1	4	2	9	5	7	6	3	8
9	6	7	4	8	3	1	2	5
3	8	5	6	2	1	9	4	7
7	9	6	8	1	4	3	5	2
4	2	3	5	6	9	8	7	1
8	5	1	3	7	2	4	6	9

Hope for 2008 Football season

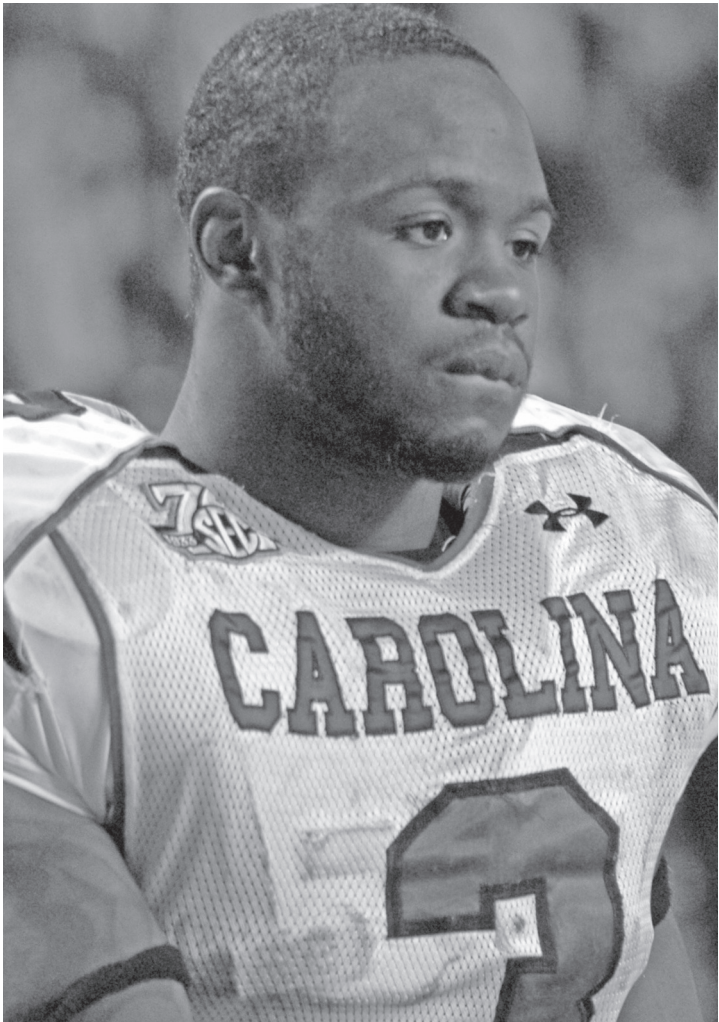


Ben Fine / THE DAILY GAMECOCK

Former South Carolina running back Cory Boyd spent last weekend trying to impress scouts at the NFL's annual combine held in Indianapolis, Ind.

After up, down career in Columbia, former Gamecock running back sets sights on chance to make an impact on scouts at NFL's yearly combine workouts

Jake Luce
THE DAILY GAMECOCK



Ben Fine / THE DAILY GAMECOCK

Cory Boyd finished with just under 1,000 yards last year.

With the disappointing 2007 football campaign now a memory, many fans are excited about the potential of a 2008 squad that should return 14 starters.

Even with the familiar faces, one player who will be sorely missed.

Cory Boyd was the only Gamecock invited to the NFL Combine and was one of only a few hundred college prospects invited to the six day scouting process. Overall, he was pleased with his performance.

"I did okay, but I expected a lot more from myself," the New Jersey native said of his performance in Indianapolis. "I impressed some coaches with my bench press reps (25). I actually did 26 but I guess I did one of them wrong."

Heading into the combine, Boyd's focus was on proving that he has the speed for the next level.

"I wanted to prove that I can be a downhill running back that still has that breakaway speed once I hit the secondary," Boyd said. "Right now we are all on the same level, all I can do is put forth my best effort and leave it in God's hands."

Among all the drills of the combine, the most scrutinized is the 40-yard dash, and was a focal point for Boyd, last season's

rushing leader.

"I really wanted a 4.4 but I was still pleased with a 4.51, especially since some of the coaches were projecting much worse, from 4.55 to 4.6," he said.

Boyd feels that playing in the SEC for four years will ultimately ease the transition into the NFL.

"Being in the SEC is a great preparation tool because of the tough grind, week in and week out, much like it is in the NFL," Boyd said.

The Combine was also an opportunity for

prospects to get to know team representatives on a more personal level, and gives scouts an idea of the character that goes along with an athlete's skill set.

"I did a lot of interviews at the East/West all-star game so it was less formal this weekend," Boyd said. "It was easier to just be Cory and let the teams have a clear understanding of the kind of person I am."

Despite mild disappointment with his performance in the 40-yard dash and vertical jump,

Boyd was content with his overall performance and is looking to get back to some normalcy.

"Right now I'm back in Fort Lauderdale taking a few days to myself, trying to put some of the weight back on," Boyd said.

Even though Boyd's future likely lies in the

professional ranks, he continues to contribute to the Carolina football program.

"I'm coming back to Columbia later this week to join the team with their winter

workouts," Boyd said. "Even though I won't be on the field with them next year, I am still a leader and some of the players on the team are like my little brothers."

"I hope to make every Gamecock proud," he continued.

The next step for Boyd is USC's Pro Day, when scouts travel to Columbia to get another look at the Gamecocks' lone NFL prospect.

Comments on this story?
E-mail sagckspt@mailbox.sc.edu

Charlotte gives sports fans new opportunity, different atmosphere

Quick trip up I-77 gives Columbia based sports fans needed change

For sports fans looking for something to do but are tired of going to the Colonial Center to watch the Gamecocks blow yet another lead, or feel that it is still a little too cold to head out to Sarge Frye Field and watch the baseball team play, I have a suggestion for you: take a trip up I-77 to Charlotte and watch a Bobcats basketball game. Even though the Bobcats may not be much better than our basketball team, the entire experience of going to a game is something worth traveling to Charlotte. Plus, with tickets starting as low as \$10, even broke college students can afford to see a game.



KEITH LOCKLEAR
Fourth-year finance student

To start off, the Bobcats play at Charlotte Bobcats Arena, which is a beautiful, state-of-the-art facility that opened in 2005. Since the arena is located in downtown Charlotte, there are plenty of places to eat if you want to arrive to the arena a little early to catch the pre-game shootaround.

Once you enter the arena, the first thing that you will probably notice is the massive scoreboard hanging in the center of the arena. The scoreboard is the largest of its kind in the country and has the largest video screen of any NBA arena.

Another unique part of the arena for those that are 21, is the full-sized open-air bar located at one end of the arena, which allows you to watch the game while you stand at the bar and enjoy your favorite frosty beverage.

The in-game entertainment is much better than what we have here at Carolina basketball games. During each timeout there is some sort of different contest that takes place on the floor that keeps the crowd engaged enough to stay in their seats, so that they do not run off to the bathrooms or concession stands once the buzzer sounds.

Aside from the standard T-shirt launching and dance team performances, entertainment includes basketball trivia and families racing around the court on tiny bicycles.

After the game, a group of drummers and dancers perform for fans in the main lobby as they leave the arena. Also, as an added bonus, you just might even run into an former NBA player on the concourse, just like I did after the game. For those of you who remember Muggsy Bogues from his playing days and his acting performance in

USC hosts Asheville

After strong summer showing, Godwin earns first start of season against Bulldogs

Patrick Morris
THE DAILY GAMECOCK

The Carolina baseball team (2-1) will take on the UNC-Asheville Bulldogs (2-1) today at Sarge Frye Field at 3 p.m.

Ranked No. 3 nationally in the ESPN/USA Today Coaches poll and No. 10 in the Baseball America poll, the Gamecocks are coming off of a series victory against No. 24 East Carolina Pirates, winning two out of three games last weekend, including a thrilling 11th inning 7-6 victory on Sunday afternoon.

UNC-Asheville also took two out of three in their opening weekend series against the Presbyterian College Blue Hose.

The Gamecocks and the Bulldogs faced each other last season, with Carolina cruising to a 9-2 victory. The Gamecocks lead the all-time series 5-0.

The Gamecocks were led offensively over the weekend by junior first baseman Justin Smoak, who hit two home runs and drove in five runs against the Pirates and by junior shortstop Reese Havens, who also hit two home runs and had six RBIs last weekend, garnering SEC Player of the Week honors.

"We will not be tinkering with the lineup," head coach Ray Tanner said after his success this weekend. Tanner expects the 1-5 hitters to be set for the rest of the year.

Senior pitcher Nick Godwin will take the mound for the Gamecocks. Godwin didn't get much playing time last year, but Tanner said he simply didn't get many opportunities. Tanner expects Godwin to pitch well and to continue his good play from the summer

leagues. Tanner believes Godwin can be a valuable fifth man in the rotation.

The Gamecocks are coming into the series averaging 11 runs a game, while the Asheville Bulldogs are only averaging a little over 5 per game. Asheville's pitching staff did a nice job over the weekend, allowing just two runs per contest, including an opening game

shutout against Presbyterian.

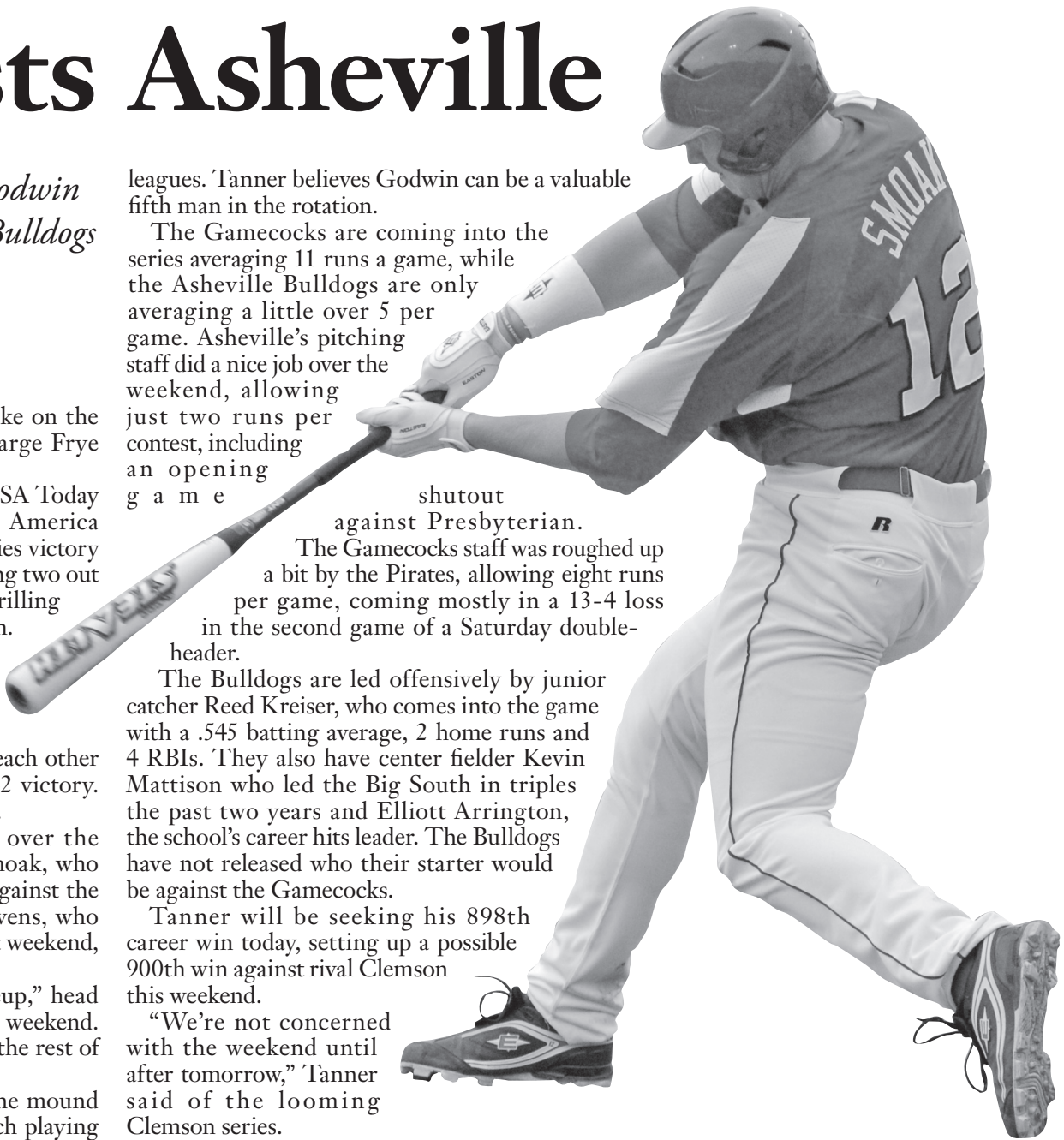
The Gamecocks staff was roughed up a bit by the Pirates, allowing eight runs per game, coming mostly in a 13-4 loss in the second game of a Saturday double-header.

The Bulldogs are led offensively by junior catcher Reed Kreiser, who comes into the game with a .545 batting average, 2 home runs and 4 RBIs. They also have center fielder Kevin Mattison who led the Big South in triples the past two years and Elliott Arrington, the school's career hits leader. The Bulldogs have not released who their starter would be against the Gamecocks.

Tanner will be seeking his 898th career win today, setting up a possible 900th win against rival Clemson this weekend.

"We're not concerned with the weekend until after tomorrow," Tanner said of the looming Clemson series.

Comments on this story?
E-mail sagckspt@mailbox.sc.edu



Sam Bennett / THE DAILY GAMECOCK

Justin Smoak is closing in on the USC home run record.

Boards key for Carolina

Holmes, Archie face potent big man onslaught from struggling LSU Bayou Bengals

Jake Luce
THE DAILY GAMECOCK



Juan Blas / THE DAILY GAMECOCK

Mike Holmes continues to improve as the season rolls on.

With four games left in the season, the men's basketball team needs a win to build momentum if they want to make any sort of post-season appearance this year.

The Gamecocks are coming off yet another heart-wrenching SEC loss after a disappointing overtime performance against Mississippi State on

Saturday.

Carolina was unable to finish despite holding a three-point lead with six seconds left in regulation.

The Bulldogs opportunity came as Ben Hansbrough was fouled while shooting a buzzer-beating 3-point shot. Hansbrough made all three of his free throws and sent the game to overtime. Carolina was outscored 11-6 in the extra period and lost 61-56.

"It's almost like how many ways can you find to lose a game," said head coach Dave Odom. "We did work on some special situations for what to do to be ready at the end of the game. It's hard to orchestrate that because you don't have a feeling of the end of the game, but just getting them to think about it and be a little more confident will certainly help us."

Tonight at 7:30 p.m., South Carolina (12-14, 4-8) hosts the LSU Tigers (10-16, 3-9), who currently sitting dead last in the western conference standings. The Gamecocks are in dire need of a win, and their performance in the SEC tournament will likely decide the team's post-season fate.

The two teams most recently faced off last March, and the loss was part of Carolina's three-game slide to close out the 2006-07 season. LSU won 61-52, as Glen 'Big Baby' Davis controlled the paint, limiting South Carolina's most explosive scorer, Tre Kelley, to the perimeter.

The men's basketball team has had a relatively unbalanced offense this season, with only three players averaging double

figures in points.

First-year Gamecock guard Devan Downey has consistently put this team on his back, averaging 19.7 points per game. He has received mild assistance in the front court from Zam Frederick and Dominique Archie, but the Gamecocks have yet to find a dominant low post presence.

Mike Holmes has had a successful freshman season and is averaging 14 points and 12 rebounds in the last two games. Holmes has the ability to contribute in the paint but his height is a major disadvantage against taller opponents.

The Tigers have a formidable post presence with two 6-foot-11 players in Anthony Randolph and Chris Johnson. Both players are averaging double figures in scoring and should give South Carolina's undersized roster some trouble in the paint.

"Defensively, it will be a challenge guarding them because they can score at all positions. They all can shoot," Odom said. "Anthony Randolph is a pro waiting to happen. He's 6-foot-10, 205, left-handed, can dribble outside and is good in and around the basket." Beyond the two big men, the Tigers offense is dependent on junior guard Marcus Thornton, who leads the team in scoring.

If the Gamecocks hope to have success in their second to last home game of the season, the team's perimeter players must embrace the responsibility to lead the offense and allow the big men to focus on their defensive obligations.

Comments on this story?
E-mail sagckpt@mailbox.sc.edu

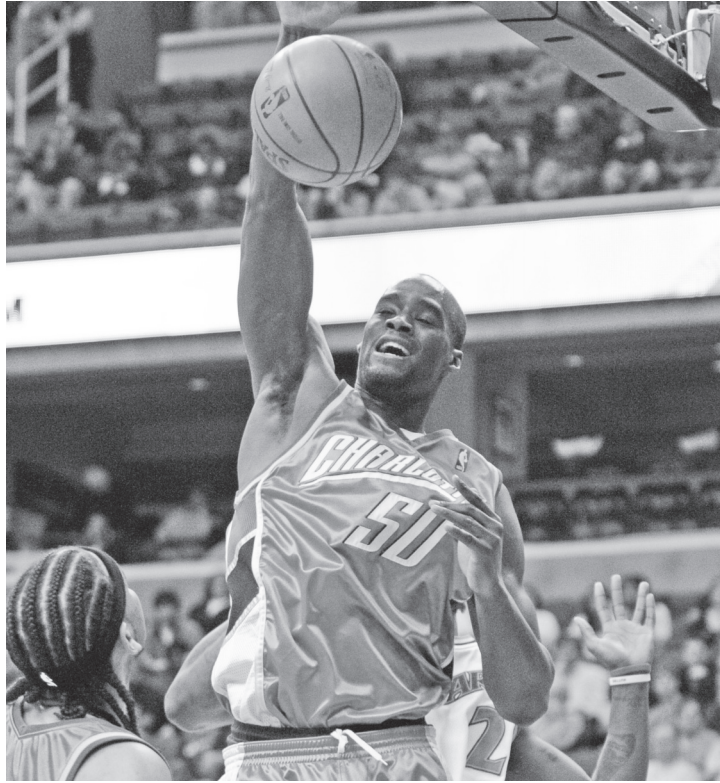
LOCKLEAR Continued from 10

the movie "Space Jam", he is even shorter in person than he seems on TV.

Another added bonus of going to a Bobcats game is the ability to see some of the most talented athletes in the world perform in person. In the remainder of this season the Bobcats will host superstars like Chris Bosh, Dwyane Wade, LeBron James and Kevin Garnett. Seeing these players in

person will allow you to appreciate the athleticism of NBA players more than you probably already do.

So sports fans, the next time you are looking for something different from the sports selection that Columbia offers, make the short trip to Charlotte and check out a Bobcats game. It is fun, affordable and you definitely will not leave disappointed, despite the game's result.



Nick Wass / The Associated Press

Emeka Okafor and Charlotte know how to put on a show.

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LSU

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— USC Dance Marathon Executive Board

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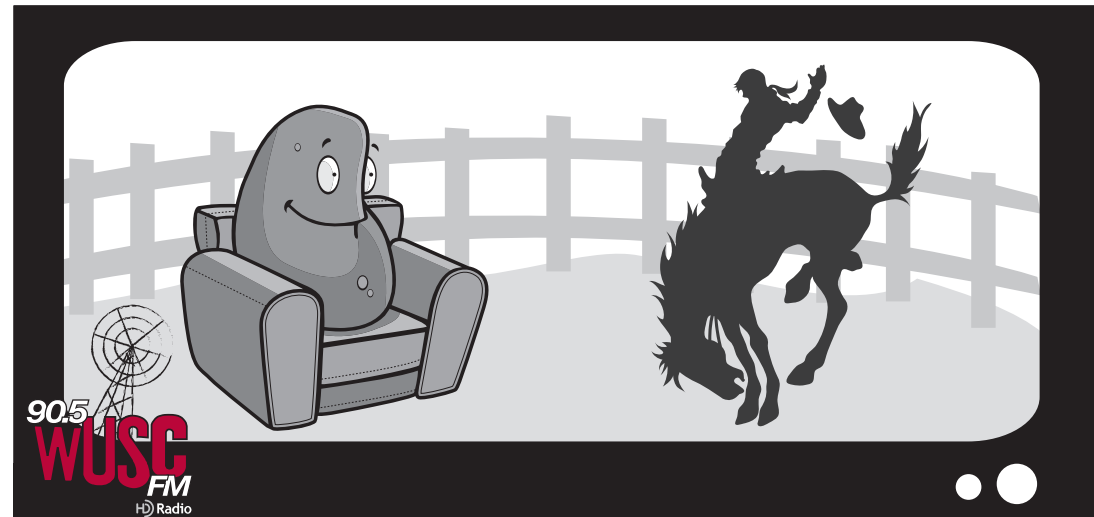
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